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Message Text

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45
ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-14 NIC-01 ACDA-19 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01

PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15 SAM-01 DRC-01 /139 W
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R 201024Z FEB 74
FM AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8538
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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINT, YO
SUBJECT: CAMPAIGN AGAINST CENTRALISTS/CONSERVATIVES ASSUMES
ALL-YUGOSLAV PROPORTIONS

REF: A. BELGRADE 0629; B. BELGRADE 0644

1. SUMMARY: WARNINGS BY SOME TOP CROATIAN LEADERS
ABOUT NEW CENTRALIST FACTIONS IN THEIR REPUBLIC (REFTELS)
AND REITERATED AT CROATIAN PARTY EXECUTIVE COMMITEE

MEETING FEB 15 HAVE NOW ESCALATED INTO WHAT APPEARS TO
BE ALL-YUGOSLAV CAMPAIGN AGAINST OPPOSITION DESCRIBED AS
REPRESENTTING CENTRALISM, UNITARISM AND EVEN NEO-STALINISM.
SECRETARY OF LCY EXECUTIVE BUREAU DOLANC TOOK OUT AFTER
THESE "ISMS" IN ONE PART OF HIS MAJOR SPEECH ON FEB 16,
AND LCY PAPER KOMUNIST ALSO ATTACKED CONSERVATIVE/
DOGMATIST FACTIONS -- ALTHOUGH APPROACH MORE CAREFULLY
BALANCED WITH WORDS ABOUT ENEMIES ON THE OTHER FLANK --
IN EDITORIAL ON FEB 18. END SUMMARY.

2. ACCORDING PRESS, EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF LC CROATIA
CENTRAL COMMITTEE IN ITS FEB 15 MEETING CLAIMED THAT
RESISTANCE FROM NATIONALIST/SEPARATIST AND BOURGEOIS
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POSITIONS TO DEVELOPMENT OF SELF-MANAGING SOCIALISM HAD

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ALREADY BEEN OVERCOME. NOW RESISTANCE WAS COMING FROM
"CENTRALISTIC/BUREAUCRATIC POSITIONS" WHO WERE SEEKING AT
ALL LEVELS, FEDERAL, REPUBLIC AND OPSTINA, TO REVIVE
"BUREAUCRATISM".

3. STANE DOLANC, IN LONG SPEECH BEFORE CONFERENCE OF SELF-
MANAGERS OF YUGOSLAVIA IN KRAGUJEVAC FEB. 16 (OTHER ASPECTS
OF WHICH ARE BEING REPORTED SEPARATELY), SPOKE OF CENTRALIST,
UNITARIST FORCES WORKING AGAINST YUGOSLAV SELF-MANAGEMENT
AND OF INDIVIDUALS WHO WERE TRYING TO TURN THEIR POLITICAL
CONCEPTS INTO "GROUPS WHICH TOMORROW, AT A GIVEN POLITICAL
MOMENT, COULD STRUGGLE FOR POWER IN THIS COUNTRY... FOR US,
FOR YUGOSLAV WORKING CLASS, FOR YUGOSLAV SELF-MANAGING
SOCIALIST SOCIETY THERE CANNOT BE ANY GOING BACK TOWARD
UNITARISM AND CENTRALISM, TOWARD ANY KIND OF NEO-STALINISM".
AT THIS POINT BLACK TANJUG BULLETIN (IN ENGLISH) OF FEB 17
GOES BEYOND YUGOSLAV PRESS VERSION OF SAME DATE TO QUOTE
DOLANCE AS REFERRING TO THE OPPOSITION "WHICH IS STRIVING
IN FACT FOR NEO-STALINISM", AN OPPOSITION HIDING BEHIND
SLOGANS WHICH AT FIRST SEEM ATTRACTIVE, BUT AMOUNT ONLY TO
DEMOGOGY. "..THESE PEOPLE WANT NOTHING ELSE IN FACT BUT
TO CREATE CONDITIONS FOR THEM TO GRAB POWER AT A GIVEN
POLITICIAL MOMENT, TO IMPOSE ON THE YUGOSLAV SOCIETY A
SYSTEM WHICH CAN NO LONGER SUIT IT AND WHICH IS REJECTED
BY THE GREAT MAJORITYOF OUR PEOPLE".

4. PARTY WEEKLY NEWSPAPER KOMUNIST OF FEB. 18 FOLLOWED
UP ON LC CROATIA CENTRAL COMMITTEE PLEMUM OF FEB . 5 (REF A)
WITH EDITIORIAL QUOTING VLADIMIR BAKARIC'S WARNING ABOUT
EMERGENCE OF CENTRALIST/BUREAUCRATIC FACTION IN LCC AND
EXPLICITLY EXTENDING DANGER ZONE FROM SUCH FACTIONAL
ACTIVITY TO REST OF YUGOSLAVIA. KOMUNIST SAID THAT "CONSER-
VATIVE/DOGMATIST FACTION" WERE ATTEMPTING TO REVIVE THEIR
CONCEPTS AND "BUREAUCRATIC/CENTRALIST TENDS" WERE NOT LIMITED TO
ANY ONE ENVIRONMENT EVEN IF ORGANIZED ACTIVITY APPEARED ONLY
IN INDIVIDUAL AREAS. IT WAS EQUALLY AS NECESSARY, CONTINUED
KOMUNIST, TO WARN PARTY MEMBERS AND PUBLIC AGAINST DANGERS
TO PARTY UNITY, SOCIALIST SELF-MANAGEMENT AND EQUALITY OF
NATIONALITITES STEMMING FROM "CENTRALIST FACTION, ATTEMPTS OF
DOGMATIST FORCES TO LAUNCH A DRIVE", AS IT WAS TO WARN ABOUT
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NATIONALIST/LIBERAL FORCES, LCY, WITH ITS RICH EXPERINCE OF
FIGHTING AGAINST OPPONENTS OF VARIOUS KINS, "MUST NOT AND
NEVER WILL DIRECT...EDGE OF ITS STRUGGLE AGAINST ONLY ONE
ENEMY, LEAVING ITS FLANKS UNPROTECTED AGAINST ATTACKS AND
DRIVE OF THE OTHER (ENEMY)".

5. COMMENT: DOLANC SPEECH AND KOMUNIST EDITORIAL BOTH CARE-
FUL TO SAY IN EXPOSING NEW OPPONENTS OF YUGOSLAV ROAD TO

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SOCIALISM THAT THERE MUST BE NO LET-UP IN FIGHT AGAINST
OLD ENEMIES. BUT WHILE KOMUNIST TOOK TACK THAT CONSERVA-
TIVES:DOGMATISTS AND NATIONALISTS/LIBERALS EQUALLY DANGEROUS,
DOLANC MADE NO BONES ABOUT PARTICULAR THREAT WHICH COULD
BE POSED BY GROUP OF CENTRALISTS MAKING POWER PLAY "AT GIVEN
POLITICAL MOMENT", PHRASE HE REPEATED, WHICH IS AS NEAR A
REFERENCE TO POSSIBLE POST-TITO POLITICAL INSTABILITY AS WE HAVE
SEEN COMING FROM A TOP LEADER. ALTHOUGH SOME OF THIS NEW
CAMPAIGN AGAINST CENTRALISTS SHOULD BE SEEN IN TERMS OF
PUTTING DOWN CRITICISM FROM PARTY CONSERVATIVES WELL IN
ADVANCE OF VARIOUS PARTY CONGRESSES AND OF INSURING
THAT MORE MODERATE CANDIDATES WIN OUT IN CADRE CHANGES
NOW UNDERWAY, MODERATE LEADERS SUCH AS DOLANC OBVIUSLY
HAVE LONGER-TERM WORRYS: THAT CONSERVATIVES GETTING SELVES
SO WELL ENTRENCHED NOW AS TO BE POTENTIAL DANGER SHOULD
TITOIST PARTY AND DECENTRALIZED GOVERNMENT RUN INTO SERIOUS
DIFFICULTIES AFTER THE OLD MAN GOES.
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